

Charge to the Stakeholder Advisory Group for Utah's State Implementation Plan for Regional Haze

March through December 2003

Background The Utah DEQ Division of Air Quality is developing a State Implementation Plan (SIP) to implement the federal regional haze rule to assure "reasonable progress" towards meeting the national goal of preventing any future, and remedying any existing impairment of visibility in national parks and wilderness areas resulting from manmade air pollution. Sources of manmade air pollution that contribute to the formation of regional haze include, among other things, industrial processes, motor vehicles, and area sources such as forest fires, road dust, and some agricultural activities.

Utah's National Parks were included in analyses conducted in the mid-1990s by the Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission, in which many Utahns participated. Utah has chosen to submit its regional haze SIP under the provisions of the federal rule that implement the Commission's recommendations because EPA has agreed that those strategies meet the reasonable progress requirement through 2018. In addition, these provisions give us the opportunity for regional cooperation via the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP) in developing the information and policies needed for the plan while still maintaining Utah's authority to adopt the plan that meets our needs. The SIP must be submitted to EPA by December 31, 2003.

Members of the Stakeholder Advisory Group are policy-level stakeholder decision makers selected by the executive director of the Department of Environmental Quality to provide their individual perspectives to assist the Division of Air Quality in developing the plan.

Charge The Regional Haze Stakeholder Advisory Group will provide the following guidance:

- Advise staff members of the Utah Division of Air Quality in understanding and addressing stakeholder concerns in developing the regional haze State Implementation Plan.
- Assist staff members of the Utah Division of Air Quality in outreach to stakeholders about regional haze, the State Implementation Plan and its possible benefits for stakeholders, the economy, and the environment of Utah.